

## Advisory Committee Memory

### Mayor's Advisory Committee on Landfill Site Selection County of Kaua'i Department of Public Works

Meeting 1  
May 6, 2008  
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

#### Attendance:

Committee Members: Gary Pacheco, David Sproat, Ted Inouye, George Costa, Diana Simao, Mike Curtis, Kathleen Hurd, Mary J. Buza-Sims, Jose Bulatao, Jr., Michael V. Layosa, Edward Kawamura, Glenn Frazier, Palmer Hafdahl  
County DPW: Troy Tanigawa  
Consultant: Brian Takeda  
Facilitator: Dee Dee Letts

Mayor Brian Baptise welcomed the members present and thanked everyone for agreeing to serve on this important Committee. He stated that the need for a landfill site was an island-wide issue and that he hoped that the members could put NIMBY issues aside and approach the siting issue from the perspective of what is the best location given the science and other considerations that the Committee feels are important. The Mayor noted that much technical evaluation had been done in the previous reports and that the Committee would need to work on and develop other criteria important in recommending a site. The Mayor also reminded the Committee that no matter what technologies are pursued by the County in the future, there will always be solid waste byproducts that require disposal at a landfill site. He reminded the Committee their task is to recommend a site for a landfill and not to decide upon the use of other technologies, recycling, or community benefits. He shared that a community benefits package was being discussed and worked on for the expansion of the current Kekaha Landfill and that such a package would be worked on for any new site. The Mayor concluded his comments by again thanking everyone for agreeing to serve and challenging them to think as a citizen of Kauai and what is best to meet the needs of the whole island.

Following introductions by the Committee, the members next adopted guidelines for how they would work together through the Committee process. The following guidelines were adopted.

- Courtesy should be practiced by all
- Be prepared for meetings – do homework as requested
- Listen as an ally
- Its OK to disagree
- Share the O2 – Everyone participates and no one dominates
- Honor the time constraints

Troy provided an overview of the last siting study (see handout) – a copy of this study will be sent to all committee members. The following questions were asked:

Q: Is this site in addition to the expansion currently underway?

A: Yes – the expansion was undertaken to provide time to choose and develop a new site.

Q: What is the UIC Line?

A: Underground Injection Control Line – usually you do not site above this line - if a site were chosen above the line any special needs, conditions, or mitigation measures would be taken up in the EIS.

Q: What is the current life of the landfill?

A: Without the expansion the life of the site is until September 2008 to June 2009 – the expansion adds 6 to 7 years.

Q: Do we know where the majority of the waste stream is generated?

A: Yes, it is generated in the population centers.

Q: Do landfills monitor for possible ground water contamination?

A: Yes, they are required to have systems in place to monitor contamination.

Q: Is there any status you can share on new technologies?

A: The county is looking at various alternatives – however as the Mayor stated, there will always be a need for a landfill site – there are opportunities to separate materials at the site and pull out recyclables and compostables – one problem with recyclable materials is our distance from markets for such materials and the cost to access these markets.

The committee next moved to a discussion on criteria. Brian reviewed the federal and state requirements for siting landfills (see handout). He also explained how a landfill is constructed and the various layers and barriers used to meet RCRA D requirements. He will try to bring a sample of the liner material to the next meeting.

Q: What distance is it from the current ground level that they excavate to start landfill construction?

A: That is a site by site decision.

Q: Are our disposal options limited because of the size of our population?

A: This would be a decision by the Department Public Works.

The committee was then asked what additional criteria they would like to see addressed in the siting of the landfill. Points that were raised included:

- What are the Best Practices for landfills and what site allows for the maximum use of Best Practices?
- Site should allow for maximum recovery of recyclables coming to the site
- Which site provides for the best use after closure

- Look at maximizing recovery of methane gas by using two sites. One site for materials that do not generate as much gas, and another site to concentrate the organics to allow for higher methane gas recovery
- We should be aware of Title VI anti-discrimination laws as we address siting
- Need to develop some criteria that address the human element not just the science
- Should look at opportunities to co-locate recycling infrastructure within the landfill site
- Should look at partnering opportunities for construction and demolition debris as several proposed large developments have a requirement to find a construction waste disposal site
- Have we looked at the old sugar mill and if it has a role to play?
- Need to address ceded lands issues if they are involved at any of the sites
- Should have criteria on distance of haul and fuel costs associated with the haul
- Should address proximity to population centers and permitted incinerators

The Committee requested a site visit to the landfill. Troy agreed to look into arrangements for the group.

The next two meetings of the Committee were set for June 17, 2008, 1:00 to 3:00 pm, and July 15, 2008, 1:00 to 3:00 pm.

Committee members will receive copies of the Kaua`i Municipal Solid Waste Landfill Siting Study and the Kalepa Study prior to the next meeting for their review.